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CPYRGHT

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(CUBANS)

WASHINGTON--THE STATE DEPARTMENT REPEATED TODAY THAT IT IS "SYMPATHETIC" WITH PRIVATE EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE RELEASE OF THE MORE THAN 1000 ANTI-CASTRO CUBANS CAPTURED AT THE BAY OF PIGS.

BUT STATE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN LINCOLN WHITE TOLD NEWSMEN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT WAS NOT TAKING PART IN NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN NEW YORK ATTORNEY JAMES B. DONOVAN AND THE CUBAN GOVERNMENT.

WHITE SAID HE HAS NO INFORMATION ON THE PROGRESS OF DONOVAN'S EFFORTS.

10/8--EG 236 PED